



# Opening Doors, Changing Lives

DIVISION OF MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES

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## Hands on Nashville Calls for Volunteers

Hands On Nashville (HON), a local, non-profit organization that recruits, educates and coordinates a network of volunteers for diverse community service projects that promote interaction with and awareness of those in need, is calling for volunteers for its 10th Annual HON Day.

The annual, citywide day of community service will be held Saturday, Oct. 20, 2001.

According to HON Executive Director Jennifer Cole, HON Day will unite more than 1,000 Middle Tennessee volunteers to provide some 75 local non-profit organizations, public schools, historic places and parks with much-needed assistance.

"Our goal - both on HON Day and

throughout the year - is to provide anyone who has a desire to help our community with opportunities to volunteer," she says. "This year's HON Day volunteers will plant, paint, repair, renovate and much, much more. More than 4,000 hours of community service will be performed during this 'volunteer-a-thon.'"

HON Day events - from volunteer projects to the post-project "Thank You Party" - will be accessible to all who want to participate, she adds.

"HON's relationship with the Center for Independent Living has really helped us reach out to Nashville's disabled community," she says. "By further expanding our efforts to make HON Day activities accessible to all Nashvillians,

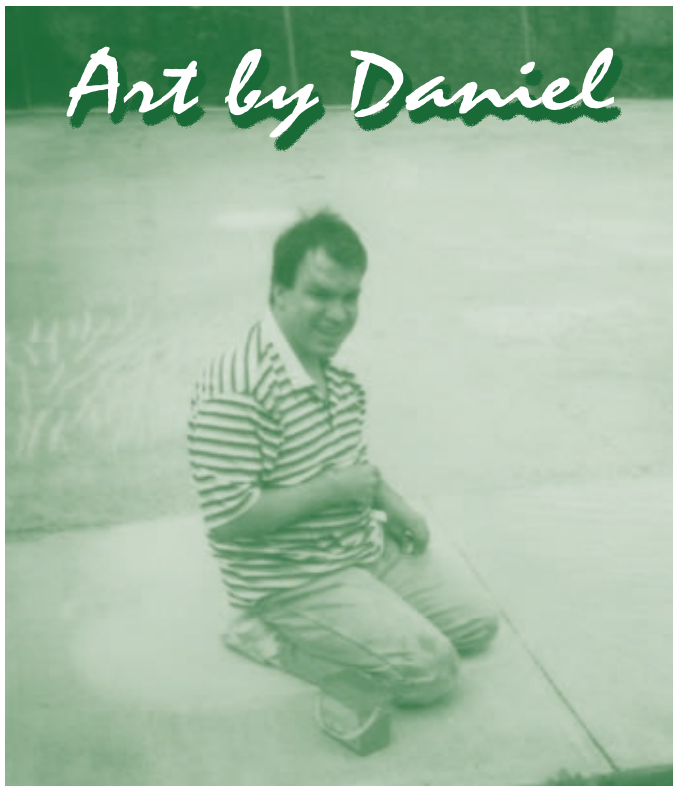
HON - and the many organizations we serve - can benefit from the talent and energy of people with disabilities."

HON Day activities will begin at 9 a.m. on Oct. 20, when volunteers gather at Centennial Park to eat breakfast and get their project assignments.

Volunteers then will spend four hours working at project sites before returning to Centennial Park for HON's annual "Thank You Party." This festival-like event will feature live entertainment; a free lunch for volunteers; activities like volleyball and prize drawings; and a short awards program.

For more information about Hands On Nashville or to register for Hands On Nashville Day, call 615/298-1108.

## Art by Daniel



Daniel Ramsey's love of art was fully realized by the community at his recent art show at the Princeton Arts Center in Johnson City, Tennessee.

He was the featured artist in February 2001. The exhibit was coordinated by Mary Lee Baker and fostered by George Pimental, who holds a Thursday evening art workshop for the Johnson City Parks and Recreation Department that is open to the public.

Daniel's love of art was recognized and his participation encouraged by Bette Baldwin, Jeremy Miller, and Tim Flannigan of Comcare, Inc. and Polkie Gregory and Jane Bishop of Science Hill High School. He works primarily indoors with felt tip markers and creating collages. Yet his most prolific creations are his outdoor illustrations with chalk.

Art is not Daniel's only interest. While living at Comcare and attending Science Hill High School for the past six years, he has developed a love for cooking and recreational walking.

Additionally, he likes to shop at Wal-Mart and spend his money eating out. Since his graduation from high school in May 2001, he is exploring employment options through Vocational Rehabilitation. It comes as no surprise that he seeks employment opportunities where he can use his hands.

If you are ever on Shadybrook Drive in Johnson City, drop by and see Daniel's latest creation.



Daniel Ramsey

# Event Celebrates Disabilities Act

The Jackson Center for Independent Living sponsored the city's second "Independence Day" celebration of the year in honor of the 11th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Americans with Disabilities Act is a civil rights law that guarantees equal opportunity in the areas of accessibility, accommodations and employment to people with disabilities.

The event was held July 26th at Jackson Fairgrounds Park and had a



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Division of  
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Services

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Commissioner, DMR Services

The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access, and affirmative action. Contact the department's EEO/AA Coordinator at (615) 532-6580, the Title VI Coordinator at (615) 532-6700 or the ADA Coordinator at (615) 532-6700 for further information. Persons with hearing impairments call (615) 532-6612.



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promulgated at a cost of \$.08 per copy.

Fourth of July picnic atmosphere. Guests feasted on Reggie's BBQ, bid at a silent auction, listened to local entertainers and visited exhibits from 26 businesses and non-profit agencies.

One of the exhibits was from the Madison County Election Commission, which included a voting machine for participants to try out.

JCIL began celebrating the ADA anniversary when the center opened six years ago. The center provides services, which include information, peer support, advocacy, skills training, home modifications and social activities to help people with disabilities meet their goals in life. JCIL has most of its



clients in Madison County, but also serves the surrounding counties as well.

The silent auction was held from 4 to 6 p.m. and offered such things as lamps, tables, mirrors and pictures donated by Madison Lighting. Proceeds from the fund-raiser are being used to provide services at JCIL.

The event concluded with music from 6 to 8 p.m. with entertainers

such as Haywood County native, Alex Harvey, who wrote hits such as "Reuben James" and "Delta Dawn".

Also on stage were George Hickerson and the Hard Times Blues Band, Rosie Robinson, and a group of S.T.A.R. Center clients who rang bells and chimes.

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Central Office-Nashville	1-800-535-9725
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### Web Site

Commission on Compliance/  
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<http://www.state.tn.us/mental2/>

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